(b) if so, what will be the additional storing capacity as a result thereof;

(c) whether Government also propose to create additional open storage in a number of States; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) and (b) Food Corporation of India has taken over an Airstrip at Tadepaligudem (Andhra Pradesh) which accommodates approximately 1.20 lakh Metric Tonnes of wheat under cover and plinth (CAP) storage.

(c) and (d) Food Corporation of India envisages creation of additional open storage capacity by resorting to following means :

(i) utilisation of all the available vacant lands in the existing depot complexes.

(ii) utilisation of lands taken over for construction of godowns but where the construction is delayed. Such sites would be utilised temporarily for open storage.

(iii) Hiring of large tracts of open lands for building large open storage complexes.

(iv) utilisation of abandoned Airstrips in the country, wherever available.

Sugar Levy Price Case

1547. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH :
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a report published in the Business Standard of September 3, 1994 under the caption, "Supreme Court slams Government in sugar levy price case";

(b) if so, whether the Supreme Court in its judgement passed strictures against the Union Food Ministry for not encashing bank guarantees given by sugar mills and not determining the disputed levy price for six years from 1975 as ordered by the Court in 1993;

(c) if so, what are the reasons for not encashing bank guarantees given by the Sugar Mills and not determining the disputed levy price as directed by the Supreme Court; and

(d) how the matter stands at present ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A copy of the Hon'ble Supreme Court's Order dated 2-9-1994, in this regard, is given at Annexure [*See* Appendix 172, Annexure No. 36-A];

(c) and (d) The implementation of the original Supreme Court Judgement dated 22nd Sept., 1993 could not be undertaken as an application had been moved by the Government in the Supreme court seeking its direction/clarifications of the judgement. After the dismissal of this application by the Supreme Court on 2nd Sept., 1994. Further action has been initiated for encashment of the Bank Guarantees involved to the extent of 50 per cent of the amount. Letters for the aforesaid partial encashment have thereafter been issued to all concerned. About Rs. 16 crores have already been realised.

Sugar Allocation to States

1548. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN :
SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) what was the total sugar allocation state-wise for the month of October-November 92, October-November 93 and October-November, 94;

(b) what were the prevailing prices during October-November 92, October-November 93 and October-November 1994, statewise;

(c) whether it is a fact that large quotas were released to Karnataka, Tamilnadu and Andhra Pradesh due to elections; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that due to glot of sugar in the market the rates slumped in the states of Karnataka, Tamilnadu and Andhra Pradesh in comparison to other States ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) The allocations of levy sugar (including festival quota) for the months of October-November 1992, October-November, 1993 and October-November, 1994, are given in the statement at Annexure [*See* Appendix 172,